

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-5 remain in the application for consideration of the Examiner.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and following remarks.

The Examiner alleges that the title of the invention is not descriptive.

By the instant amendment, a new title has been provided that is clearly indicative of the invention in which the claims are directed.

Claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

By the instant amendment, it is respectfully submitted that the concerns of the Examiner have been met and Claims 1-5 are in full compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 112.

Claims 1 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Jordan; Claims 1 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Stuebing; and Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Jordan or Stuebing.

These rejections are respectfully traversed.

It is respectfully submitted that Stuebing does not disclose or suggest the presently claimed invention including the ramp signal having a slope determined by the bias current and an input capacitance of the analog amplifier.



Stuebing discloses that the control bus 14 ultimately controls the slope of the ramp generator 20. As a consequence, the amplifier 38 has nothing to do with such control.

Jordan does not disclose or suggest the presently claimed invention including the ramp signal having a slope determined by the bias current and an input capacitance of the analog amplifier.

The ramp generator 156 is controlled by slew rate compensator circuit 174 and has nothing to do with amplifiers 158 and 160 and consequently could not meet the above mentioned claimed limitations.

Applicants appreciate the indication that if Claims 4 and 5 were rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, these claims would be allowable.

By the instant amendment, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, has been overcome and furthermore Claims 4 and 5 have been amended to include the limitations of Claim 1.

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

While it is believed that the instant response places the application in condition for allowance, should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned in order to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues.



To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any fees in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Texas Instruments Incorporated, Account No. 20-0668.

Respectfully submitted,



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